

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

House of Representatives

State House, Boston 02133-1054

June 8, 2011

His Excellency Deval L. Patrick, Governor
Commonwealth of Massachusetts
State House, Room 360
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Patrick:

We are writing you to ask for your reversal of the decision to not participate in the Federal Secure Communities Initiative.

We, the undersigned members of the House of Representatives, feel that it is in the best interest of the residents of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to willingly and fervently participate in the Secure Communities Initiative. Massachusetts' participation in such an initiative will not only ensure the safety of the lives of our residents, but will also protect the economic interests of the state.

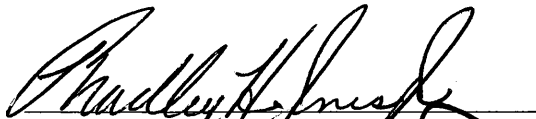
The entire Republican Caucus in the House of Representatives, have been long-time supporters and frequent sponsors of a variety of initiatives to ensure taxpayer resources are utilized for the benefit of persons here legally - be they citizens or non-citizens here under the color of law. We have no reservations about providing services to all of our law-abiding residents. These are the people we must do our utmost to protect.

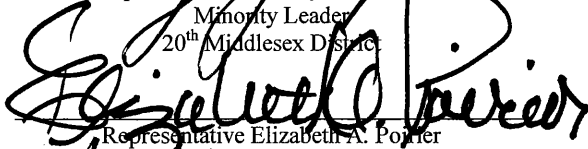
We would emphasize that in 2008, there were 806 illegal immigrants in Massachusetts Correctional Institutions incarcerated for an average of 241 days. Thus, if the annual cost per inmate in 2008 was \$46,000, then the total cost to the taxpayers for keeping these criminals in the United States is over \$30 million. The Initiative is a common sense program that will help to address this problem. In these difficult economic times, we should be focusing our limited resources on our most important public services – not on the upkeep of criminal aliens.


By refusing to participate in this program, Massachusetts is putting itself in a position to fall behind other states in the country that have already accepted and adopted this program. To protect the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the people who reside within our borders legally, we urge you, Governor Patrick, to reverse your decision and participate in the Federal Secure Communities Initiative.

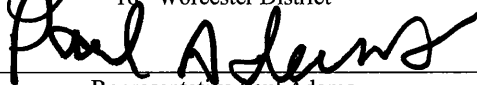
We would be happy to meet with you to discuss this issue in greater detail and we look forward to your response.


Sincerely,

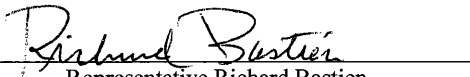

Representative Bradley H. Jones, Jr.
Minority Leader
20th Middlesex District

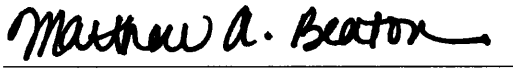

Representative Elizabeth A. Popier
14th Bristol District

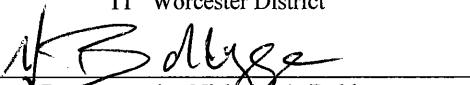

Representative Ryan C. Fattman
18th Worcester District

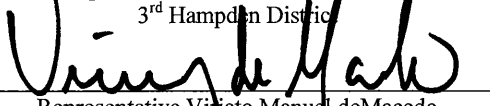

Representative Paul Adams
17th Essex District



Representative F. Jay Barrows
1st Bristol District

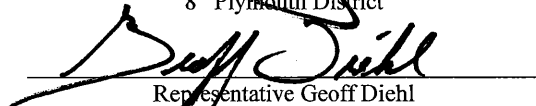

Representative Richard Bastien
2nd Worcester District

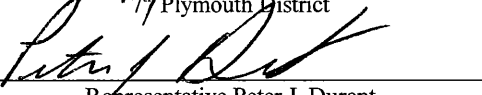

Representative Matthew A. Beaton
11th Worcester District

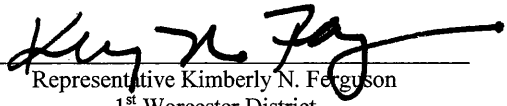

Representative Nicholas A. Boldyga
3rd Hampden District

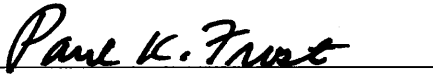

Representative Viriato Manuel deMacedo
1st Plymouth District

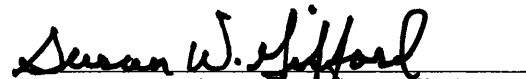

Representative Angela L. D'Emilia
8th Plymouth District

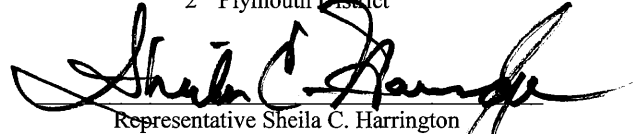

Representative Geoff Diehl
7th Plymouth District

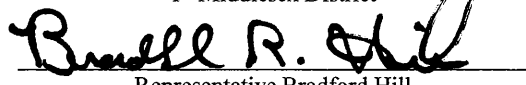

Representative Peter J. Durant
6th Worcester District



Representative Kimberly N. Ferguson
1st Worcester District

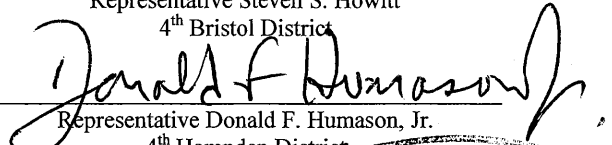

Representative Paul K. Frost
7th Worcester District

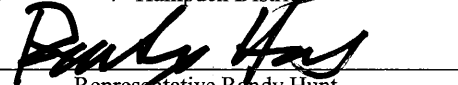

Representative Susan Williams Gifford
2nd Plymouth District

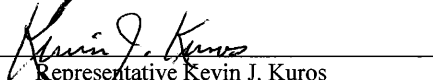

Representative Sheila C. Harrington
1st Middlesex District

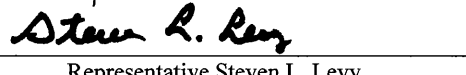

Representative Bradford Hill
4th Essex District

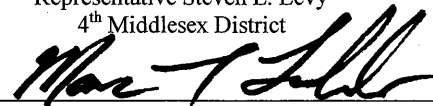

Representative Steven S. Howitt
4th Bristol District

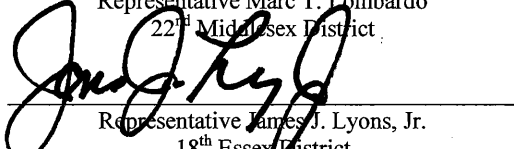

Representative Donald F. Humason, Jr.
4th Hampden District

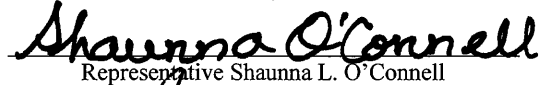

Representative Randy Hunt
5th Barnstable District

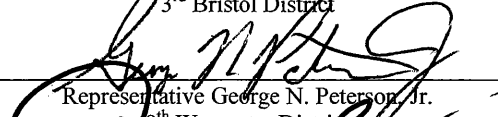

Representative Kevin J. Kuros
8th Worcester District


Representative Steven L. Levy
4th Middlesex District



Representative Marc T. Lombardo
22nd Middlesex District

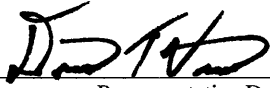

Representative James J. Lyons, Jr.
18th Essex District


Representative Shaunna L. O'Connell
3rd Bristol District

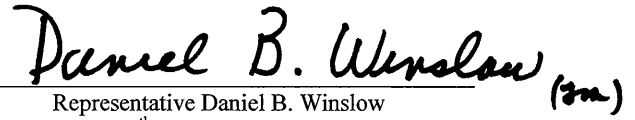

Representative George N. Peterson, Jr.
9th Worcester District


Representative George T. Ross
2nd Bristol District


Representative Todd M. Smola
1st Hampden District



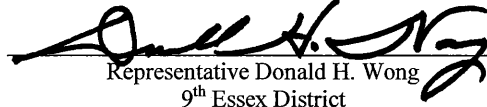
Representative David T. Vieira
3rd Barnstable District



Representative Daniel B. Winslow
9th Norfolk District



Representative Daniel K. Webster
6th Plymouth District



Representative Donald H. Wong
9th Essex District